BCCI enforced life ban on Mohd. Azharuddin and 5 years' ban on Ajay Jadeja, Ajay Sharma and Manoj Prabhakar. BCCI exonerated Nayan Mongia. Mohd. Azharuddin and Ajay Jadeja have challenged the decision of BCCI in Civil Court, Hyderabad and High Court of Delhi, respectively.

BCCI had revised its Code of Conduct to achieve higher standards under intimation to the Government. Moreover, Ministry of Law has been asked to study the provisions of Gambling Acts of various States to evolve model amendments for consideration of the States so as to deal with instances such as match fixing effectively.

Rules for Prevention of use Steriods and Cortisons by Players

775. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to frame rules to test and prevent the use of steriods and cortisons by the cricket players before entering into the ground for playing matches; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir. As per international norms, such rules are prepared by the concerned International Sports Federation/ Association/Board/Council.

(b) Does not arise.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 26TH JULY, 2001*

National Highway-54 in Assam

*61. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned and released any amount to begin construction of newly declared National Highway-54 in Assam;

*The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Thursday, the 26th July, 2001 was adjourned as a mark of respect on memory of Shrimati Phoolan Devi, a sitting Member of Lok Sabha who died on the 25th July, 2001. Answers to Questions put down in the Lists for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Friday, the 27th July, 2001.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for not releasing the funds; and

(d) by when the funds are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) NH-54 in Assam is newly declared National Highway. Development of this NH will be taken up in phases based on the feasibility report to be prepared by the State PWD. As an interim measure, urgent improvement works amounting to Rs. 5.57 crore had been sanctioned during the last finanical year. In the current Annual Plan, proposals for widening of 10 km length at a cost of Rs. 4.50 crore and reconstruction of a culvert at a cost of Rs. 22.00 lakh have been made. Periodic renewal for 20 Km. length of the NH has been sanctioned for an amount of Rs. 124.21 lakh. This will improve about 50 Km. length of the NH. The funds are released to the State for the sanctioned works as per the requirement.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Market survey for software export

*62. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any market survey in the country and abroad on software export;

(b) if so, the result and the projection made thereon; and

(c) the details of the steps taken to increase the export of software?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) While the Government has not conducted any such survey, National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) in association with Mckinsey had prepared a study report in 1999 on the Indian Information Technology Strategies. As per the report, by 2008, the opportunity